

Cllrs Lorna Dupré and Mark Inskip

MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022

Death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, accession of HM King Charles III

The death of HM Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8 September was announced early that evening. Our condolences go to her family at this sad time.

The Queen's funeral will take place at 11:00AM on Monday 19 September, which will be a bank holiday and the final day of the period of national mourning. Royal Mourning will be observed until seven days after the Queen's funeral by Members of the Royal Family, Royal Household staff and Representatives of the Royal Household on official duties, and troops committed to Ceremonial Duties.

The Accession Council met on Saturday 10 September to proclaim the new monarch King Charles III—the first time its meeting has been televised. Lorna attended the Proclamation on Sunday 11 September at 1:00PM at the Guildhall in Cambridge and we both attended at 4:00PM at the Cathedral in Ely.

Books of condolence

An online book of condolence has been set up by Cambridgeshire County Council. This can be found online at

https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Condolence_Book

Physical books of condolence are also available to sign

- in Cambridgeshire's public libraries including Ely
- at The Glebe in Sutton
- at the District Council offices at The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely
- at Walter Gidney Pavilion, Soham
- at Holy Trinity Church, Bottisham
- at St Mary's Church, Burwell
- at Newmarket Town Memorial
- and at St Peter & St Mary Magdalene Church, Fordham

For residents unable to access the online book of condolence, arrangements are being made for councils to accept postal condolence messages, which will then be collected together. East Cambridgeshire residents can send messages clearly marked 'Condolence Book' to The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely CB7 4EE.

Bin collections

Performance for waste collection and street cleaning at East Cambridgeshire District Council has been the lowest since the service was transferred to East Cambs Street Scene (ECSS) in 2018, figures issued to councillors reveal.

The performance of the service was due to be debated at a meeting of the council's Operational Services Committee on Monday 12 September, but this was cancelled following the death of HM The Queen.

- The council's target for 'bin deliveries within 10 working days' was 92 per cent—but the council managed just 38 per cent.
- Similarly the council's target for 'overall performance' of the street cleaning service was 90 per cent—but the council achieved just 21 per cent in the first quarter of the financial year.

Staff shortages, sickness and the recent reconfiguration of waste rounds are being blamed for the performance downturn. Street sweeping services have suffered as drivers have been diverted to try to keep up the waste collections.

At the time of writing it is suggested that waste collections are likely to be suspended on Monday 19 September for the funeral of the Queen.

Planning application updates

Mepal crematorium 21/01216/F3M

The district council has asked to extend the period for deciding the application until 30 September 2022. The reason why an extension of time is being requested has been given as 'to all [sic] for full assessment of the application'.

Garden Close Sutton 22/00057/RMM

We have submitted an objection to Abbey's latest application on the grounds that it breaches the Sutton Neighbourhood Plan, the East Cambridgeshire Local Plan, and the East Cambridgeshire Design Guide. It also fails to address the grounds on which the previous application was refused on appeal.

We have also registered a complaint to the Council about the way in which it wrote to residents copying the applicants' justifications for their latest changes as if these had been confirmed and had the support of the Council. We believe this failed to meet the standards of objectivity required of the local authority.

Meet your councillors

We will be holding our first face to face surgery in some time, on Wednesday 21 September from 6:30 to 7:30PM. In the meantime, residents can contact us by email, Facebook, or phone.

Cllr Lorna Dupré

Cllr Mark Inskip

District Councillors for the Sutton ward